

THE GLEICHEN CALL

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GLEICHEN, ALBERTA, WEDNESDAY

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Legion Ladies Appoint Officials For Ensuing Year

The postponed meeting of the Women's Auxiliary to the Canadian Legion, on account of the drifted roads and cold weather, was held Thursday evening in the Legion hall.

The meeting opened in the usual form. Thank you letters were read from J. Harding and E. Holly, war veterans making their home at Evesham Home here. These proved interesting.

A letter from the Canadian March of Dimes was read and the W.A. voted to donate \$10 toward this worthy cause.

Thank you letters were read from British Legion, generous Christmas parcels sent from the W.A. The children were delighted and enjoyed helping unpack these parcels.

A donation of \$5 was voted to be given to the Taylor in operation for his work at the Legion Hall.

Five new members were initiated and two applications for membership in the branch. These are Mrs. Grace Schierholz and Mrs. Bertram Evans.

In place of the March of Dimes each member voted to contribute \$1.00 to be sent to a veterans' children's orphanage in Edmonton.

The annual report shows a very successful year of activities and a bank balance of \$1,000.

President Mrs. E. Oliver thanked the ladies of the organization as a whole very kindly for the good support she received from all members during the past year. This is the first meeting of the new year the election of officers.

Mr. Stuart Hampton, president of the Gleichen Canadian Legion presided over nominations of officers. Scrutinizers were Mrs. Haskayne and Mrs. Schierholz.

Officers elected for this term are as follows:

President—Mrs. R. Oliver, 3rd term.
Vice-president—Mrs. R. Haskayne.
and vice-president—Mrs. H. Boggs.

Secretary—Mrs. C. Hutton.
Treasurer—Mrs. A. N. McLeay, 4th term.

Executive—Mrs. M. Holt, Mrs. W. Schelle, Mrs. O. Kilep, Miss B. Vandell and Mrs. W. Matheson.

Installing officer S. Hampton and sergeant at arms Mrs. Thorburn.

Mrs. Oliver thanked Mr. Hampton for his nominations and in stalled officers.

The meeting adjourned in the usual manner after which a social hour was spent over tea and coffee cups.

Alberta History

By F. W. GERSHAW

In 1854 Anthony Henday, who was the first man to write any records, spent some months in the country drained by the South Saskatchewan River. He saw great herds of buffalo at that time. In the spring time the ground would be almost covered with buffalo as far as the eye could see.

By 1880 the buffalo of the plains was almost extinct. Thousands had been killed by Indians and traders. Thousands had been eaten in river beds. The remainder had perished in by breaking through the ice in early winters. Thousands were chased over cut banks and left to their terrible fate and other died of starvation as blizzards succeeded blizzards, snows became deeper and deeper. Modern weapons completed the destruction of these great herds.

The records show that at one time the only plains buffalo were a small herd in Manitoba. The owner offered them to the U.S.A. for a price but could make no sale. Hon. Frank Oliver advised the Canadian Government to buy the herd. Sir W. Laurier approved saying in his eloquent way that it is in the power of the Canadian to help the world.

The herd was purchased and taken to Wainwright Park in Alberta and it rapidly increased in numbers. There were 10,000 buffalo in their wild state up north in the Wood Mountain area.

It was the last feeding ground of buffalo not in captivity and when the natural pasture at Wainwright was exhausted in 1926, the

Forty Rinks Are Entered In The Local Bonspiel

The Gleichen Curling Club's annual bonspiel got underway bright and early Monday morning, 9 o'clock to be exact when some forty rinks entered. Not all of them will be able to appear over to show plaudits and awards.

With three sheets of ice in use the play Monday continued until after 11 o'clock that night. During the day drifting snow plugged the roads and with the very cold weather, Tweedsmuir prevented outside rinks from reaching town on time to play their games.

With the large number of entries it will be near to the end of the week before all games can be determined.

The prizes offered for the various competitions are splendid and contain many useful articles. They are on display at the rink.

EXPERIMENTAL FARM NOTES SOILS FOR TOMORROW

In the vast arena of human endeavor all society has its basic roots planted firmly in the soil. To maintain this soil at its present high level will be still more elevate it to an even higher standard will be possible only by adopting a rigorous program of soil conservation and farming practices.

To conserve is to save and to protect to leave what we ourselves enjoy in such a condition that others may also share that enjoyment. It is an expression of good manners toward nature and toward future generations that yet remain. Such is the responsibility of each of us, as a people, entrusted with an irreplaceable piece of property, namely, our soil.

This soil conservation is of concern to all of us, whether we realize it or not, for in the final analysis our food, all of our food, comes from the soil. It has been said that food is the most important soil commodity. Such being the case, is it fair and just to the peoples of a hungry world that we should allow our soils to be depleted, washed and blown away at the alarming rate that they have during the past number of years? Needless to say, the answer is no.

There is something that we can and must do!

All of us can improve our pasturing and grazing practices. If necessary we can adopt some practices not formerly a part of our farming scheme.

True enough, many of us are automatically entitled for some economic assistance in the amount of crop control we can adopt but at the same time even one small step in the right direction is better than no step at all. For some of us this one step might be the adoption of a trash mulch system of crop control which our work on the Lethbridge Experimental Station has repeatedly shown to be effective in controlling soil drifting; to others in localities of great rainfall, or where the soil is easily washed away, the incorporation of legumes and grasses in their crop rotations along with the better utilization of barnyard manure and commercial fertilizers and, in still other cases, perhaps, involve the growing of natural waterways, the building of small check dams to spread the heavy spring run off, or even a combination of several such controls.

Building even one small check dam, for example, in a stream 100 ft. long is a step in the right direction and is worthwhile, insignificant as it may seem. No insurance company ever offered a policy of equal value or merit for so small a sum as the cost of the dam, or the cost of the labor when we adopt such a conservation program. Similarly no one in the history of mankind has ever executed a greater swindle than we are now guilty of if we fail to protect our soil.

When once we start to think of this problem and develop an appreciation of the importance of soil conservation to us as individuals and as a nation, we will then be ready to take action against this appalling situation. It is the only way right here in Western Canada.

This is the time for all of us to plan and to chart the most reasonable and effective way to meet the situation. If we have not already done so, let's start now with such plans and then when spring rolls around as (Continued on back page)

The First Picture of the New Plymouth



An entirely new profile with new peaked-crown fenders extending beyond the trunk line, completely new grille and massive new front fenders. The Plymouth, too, has the greatest all-round visibility offered in Plymouth's history, a distinguishing feature of the new models.

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OUR COMPLETE SHORT STORY

MISS SUSIE'S INDEPENDENCE

By MARY G. SWINSON

IT WAS a shock to me, of course, to find Miss Susie Brown lying dead in her bed. But we had all expected it and talked it over with the church and county officials. There had to be a reason of some sort and a place to put her.

Miss Susie had been a town institution. It had been her mother's life before me and it had just begun. The town would feel a responsibility for burying her as it would for her son, a great man, cut down around the monument downtown.

Our town was a small one and, being on the big prairie, grew slowly. It was a growing town during my lifetime and we were all pretty closely knit. The country did what it could to assist in the growth of the town and the churches asked as regularly for donations for her as they did for foreign missions. It was here in the long ago that Miss Susie, I guess, she had no special church affiliation and had all contributed; although she was a Methodist.

When Miss Susie first came to our town as a young girl, nobody ever knew where or why. She cooked for us and all the time I could see she had a weakness for strays — dogs and cats and birds. — Miss Susie lasted the long life of three generations.

After Grandma died, Miss Susie's first real independence began and it was a heady draught. Selling religious books became her most thrilling adventure. She had a box and would bring them only to support Miss Susie never seemed to slow up her desire for more. Methodists, Baptists, and Episcopalians all bought her books and we strongly suspected that she spread her religious ideas to the people.

Now I can remember sitting on the floor avidly thumbing the flamboyant little Bibles, pictures, and cards, watching her little brown eyes dash and hearing her say to Mama: "Now, Mary, it says here just as plain as the nose on my face that Jesus went down into the River Jordan and lifted up the water and poured it over me. I have never told no Baptist I told you so, but you wouldn't buy my books."

It turned out that she was Mama's special care and when I left Grandma was gone and I guess she must have had some of Grandma's feeling for the old woman because Mama was the one who launched her on her most important career.

It was at that if Miss Susie had to have her own way she would have been well beneath it. Anyhow, when I was a skinny-legged tomboy of seven, she would walk miles in her flat-headed, deliberate strides coming down the street and saw the big, deep-set clutching tight on an angular, thin-legged, sniffling girl with blossoms in the air, I knew Spring had really come. We all stopped fast to watch to whom the new favor; for there would be a spread out linen lace, valentines, fine damask and colored rock-racks... things which pointed to Easter and party.

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